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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
10/009,614	12/14/2001	Friedhelm Eisenbeiss	MERCK 2337	3719	
23599	7590 06/23/2003				
MILLEN, WHITE, ZELANO & BRANIGAN, P.C. 2200 CLARENDON BLVD. SUITE 1400			EXAMINER		
			NOLAND, THOMAS		
ARLINGTON	N, VA 22201		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
			2856	. <u>-</u>	
		•	DATE MAILED: 06/23/2003		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

	Application No. Applicant(s) 10/269/14 I I sen sell et u			, ,			
Office Action Summary	10/209/14	II.	Sen Seil	et-U			
Onice Action Summary	Examiner		Group Art Unit				
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—The MAILING DATE of this communication appears	on the cover sheet be	eneath the co	rrespondence add	iress			
Period for Reply	3	•					
A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO OF THIS COMMUNICATION.	EXPIRE	MONTH(S)	FROM THE MAILI	NG DATE			
 Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.13 from the mailing date of this communication. If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply If NO period for reply is specified above, such period shall, by default, ex Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, 	within the statutory minimupire SIX (6) MONTHS from	um of thirty (30) o the mailing date	days will be considered of this communication	i timely.			
Status.	/						
Responsive to communication(s) filed on	/			·			
☐ This action is FINAL.							
Since this application is in condition for allowance except fo accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 (the merits is close	ed in ·			
Disp sition of Claims				***************************************			
Claim(s)		is/are p	ending in the applic	cation.			
Of the above claim(s)		is/are w	vithdrawn from cons	sideration.			
☐ Claim(s)		is/are a	llowed.				
□ Claim(s)		is/are re	eiected.				
□ Claim(s)———							
□ Claim(s)		are sub	ject to restriction or	r election			
Application Papers		require					
☐ See the attached Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing F	Review PTO-948						
☐ The proposed drawing correction, filed on	* *] disapproved	I.				
The drawing(s) filed on 12/17/ is/are objected to by the Examiner.							
☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.							
$\hfill\Box$ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.							
Pri rity under 35 U.S.C. § 119 (a)-(d)							
Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under All Some* None of the CERTIFIED copies of the received.	priority documents ha	ve been					
☐ received in Application No. (Series Code/Serial Number) received in this national stage application from the Intern			•				
*Certified copies not received:							
AMark was also			•				
Attachment(s) Information Disclosure Statement(s), PTO-1449, Paper No(s)	5 h/w 1 12	taniaw Summ	an/ PTO-412				
Notice of Reference(s) Cited, PTO-892			iary, P10-413 ial Patent Application	n PTO-152			
☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Revi w, PTO-948			ai Faterit Applicatio				
Office Acti n Summary							

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1. The preliminary amendment filed Dec. 17, 2001 has been entered.

2. This application currently names joint inventors. In considering patentability of the claims under 35 U.S.C. 103(a), the examiner presumes that the subject matter of the various claims was commonly owned at the time any inventions covered therein were made absent any evidence to the contrary. Applicant is advised of the obligation under 37 CFR 1.56 to point out the inventor and invention dates of each claim that was not commonly owned at the time a later invention was made in order for the examiner to consider the applicability of 35 U.S.C. 103(c) and potential 35 U.S.C. 102(e), (f) or (g) prior art under 35 U.S.C. 103(a).

- 3. Appropriate and forms of the headings listed in paragraph 4 below must be inserted into the specification, preferably, by applicant.
- 4. The following guidelines illustrate the preferred layout and content for patent applications. These guidelines are suggested for the applicant's use.

Arrangement of the Specification

The following order or arrangement is preferred in framing the specification and, except for the reference to the drawings, each of the lettered items should appear in upper case, without underling or bold type, as section headings. If no text follows the section heading, the phrase "Not Applicable" should follow the section heading:

- (a) Title of the Invention.
- (b) Cross-Reference to Related Applications.
- (c) Statement Regarding Federally Sponsored Research or Development.
- (d) Reference to a "Sequence Listing," a table, or a computer program listing appendix submitted on compact disc (see 37 CFR 1.52(e)(5)).
- (e) Background of the Invention.
 - 1. Field of the Invention.
 - 2. Description of the Related Art including information disclosed under 37 CFR 1.97 and 1.98.

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(f) Brief Summary of the Invention.

- (g) Brief Description of the Several Views of the Drawing(s).
- (h) Detailed Description of the Invention.
- (I) Claim or Claims (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (j) Abstract of the Disclosure (commencing on a separate sheet).
- (k) Drawings.
- (l) Sequence Listing, if on paper (see 37 CFR 1.821-1.825).
- 5. The drawings are objected to because: in Fig. 2 the figures should be separately labeled as Fig. 2A and Fig. 2B; in Fig. 3 the figures should be separately labeled as Fig. 3A, Fig. 3B, Fig. 3C and Fig. 3D; and in Fig. 4 the figures should be separately labeled as Fig. 4A Fig. 4F. A proposed drawing correction or corrected drawings are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.
- 6. Applicant is required to submit a proposed drawing correction in reply to this Office action. However, formal correction of the noted defect may be deferred until after the examiner has considered the proposed drawing correction. Failure to timely submit the proposed drawing correction will result in the abandonment of the application.
- 7. On page 12, 2nd paragraph-page 13, 2nd paragraph the fig numbers referred to should be amended to correspond to those in the proposed drawing correction required above.
- 8. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

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9. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by TDB ACC-No: NN 72032862.

The intended use was given no weight.

10. Claims 1-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Elwenspoek et al, cited in IDS.

Note abstract, Fig. 13 and page 233, paragraph bridging first and 2nd columns. Fig. 13 shows both parallel and serial sections. Since in a microscopic system the valves and pumps could be considered as micro valves and micro pumps. Presumably the sealing of the pumps into the system is tight since leakage is undesirable.

- 11. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:
 - (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.
- 12. Claims 5-6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Elwenspoek et al in view of Parce et al WO 98/00231, cited in the IDS as Kopf.

Even if the pumps and valves taught in the microanalysis system of Elwenspoek et al are not microvalves. Parce et al teaches on page 28, lines 25-32 that such are known expedients in such systems to assist in controlling flow in such systems and thus such would have been an obvious expedient to have used in Elwenspoek to help control the flow therein as desired.

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13. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's

disclosure. The cited reference show fluid channel systems and/or channeled analyzer systems.

14. Strand et al US 2002/0176804, not prior art, discloses a microfluidic substrate but does

not claim a device for delivering sample volumes to a miniaturized analytical device with at least

one channel section having at least one fluidic connection present at each end.

15. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Tom Noland whose telephone number is (703) 305-4765. The examiner can

normally be reached on weekdays from 9:00 to 5:30.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor,

Mr. Hezron E. Williams, can be reached on (703) 305-4705.

The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is

assigned is (703) 308-7722.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding

should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0956.

Thomas P. Noland Primary Examiner

Thomas Neld

6/20/03

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T NOLAND/pj 06/13/03